



BlueCross BlueShield
of Montana

Strengthening Families Essay Contest

Montana Children's Trust Fund is proud to announce the first annual Strengthening Families Essay Contest to encourage students grades 6-12 to learn about and reflect on the role individuals and communities have to strengthen families and keep all kids safe.

All teachers across Montana are encouraged to give this essay writing assignment to their 6-12 grade classes as homework or extra credit.

Each teacher can nominate up to 3 student essays to submit to the statewide contest.

For the downloadable, fillable essay contest submission form, click here: [Teacher Submission Form](#)

ESSAY PROMPT

Essays should be 400-600 words in length.

Students may choose either of the following topics to write about:

How can we all play a role in strengthening families?

What does your community do to strengthen families?

Click here for [resources](#) and [information](#)



PRIZES (6-8 grade category and 9-12 grade category)

First Place

\$100 Amazon.com gift card to the winning student

\$400 to the school of the winning student to use towards classroom expenses

Second Place

\$50 Amazon.com gift card to the second place student

\$200 to the school of the winning student to use towards classroom expenses

Third Place

\$25 Amazon.com gift card to the third place student

\$100 to the school of the winning student to use towards classroom expenses

Elementary Schools [click here](#) for a #GoBlue contest!

SUBMISSION DETAILS

Each teacher may nominate up to 3 student essays to be entered into the statewide contest.

Selected student essays should be formatted as Word documents or PDFs, and these electronic files must be submitted via email by a teacher or principal along with a completed submission form.

Entries should be sent to kkirchberg@mt.gov by April 1, 2016 at 5 pm.

Winners will be notified during the week of April 11, 2016.

Questions? Please contact Kami at kkirchberg@mt.gov or 406-444-5915